

# 2012 Special Events Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas

www.tnstateparks.com

www.tn.gov/environment/na/natareas/

Happy 75th Anniversary to Tennessee State Parks! In addition to the many special Anniversary Events being held across the state, we have many exciting events being held every week throughout the year. Our event list is updated throughout the year. Check out the event web page for the latest events www.tnstateparks.com/events.

Please note: For most Tennessee State Natural Area events space is limited and reservations are required. Trips may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Leave your phone number and/or email address with the hike leader so they can reach you if plans change. If you have reserved a spot on a hike but are unable to attend, please let the hike leader know, so someone on the waiting list may take your place. Events are as accurate as possible but are subject to change. For more information about a specific Natural Area, including descriptions, directions and maps visit www.tn.gov/environment/na/natareas.

# Tennessee State Parks hosts Happy New Year December 31- January 1

Make plans now to <u>ring in 2012</u> with a number of <u>special New Year's Eve celebrations</u> at Tennessee State Parks inns and restaurants, including dinner buffets, holiday room discounts, music and dancing! <u>Learn more</u> about NYE events at Cumberland Mountain, Fall Creek Falls, Henry Horton, Montgomery Bell, Paris Landing and Pickwick Landing.

### January 1&2 Tennessee State Parks hosts First Hikes

Tennessee State Parks will be kicking off 2012 and our 75th Anniversary year with a series of "First Hikes" at each park. Every Tennessee State Park will host its own special hike on either Sunday, January 1 or Monday, January 2 to welcome the New Year. Find a First Hike and make plans to hit the trail as you get 2012 started off on the right foot. Visit the First hike Web page

### Jan. 2-Feb. 26 Reelfoot Lake hosts Eagle Tours

(WEST) Reelfoot Lake has one of the largest wintering populations of Bald Eagles outside of Alaska, and the return of the eagles is a major event. The park has established extensive guide and information programs for winter visitors to Reelfoot Lake. The tour is a two-hour bus trip around Reelfoot Lake to observe the Bald Eagles

and waterfowl. Tours are offered seven days a week. Buses leave the Visitor Center at 10 a.m. daily and 1:30 p.m. CT on weekends. Reservations are required. There is a minimal charge for the tour. Tour guides equipped with binoculars, telescopes and most important, extensive knowledge of the eagles, rarely have difficulty locating the birds. In addition to providing information about the eagles, the guides also provide information about Reelfoot Lake and other waterfowl. For reservations or more information call the visitor center at 731 253-9652.

January 7 Fort Loudoun hosts 75 Years of Tennessee State Park History (EAST) This is the first in our Winter Lecture Series. Join a Tennessee State Park Historian at the Fort Loudoun Visitors Center at 2 p.m. ET to learn more about the 3/4 century history of Tennessee State Parks. Birthday cake will be served at the conclusion of the program. For more information call 423-884.6217.

January 7&8 Sycamore Shoals hosts Christmas Militia Muster at Fort (EAST) Sat., January 7 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sun., January 8 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. ET. Christmas isn't over yet! European migrants brought Old World holiday traditions to America, from the Dutch Sinter Klaus to the Twelve Days of Christmas. Discover the English, German, Scotch-Irish, and Dutch roots of our modern holiday celebrations. Contact the park for detailed schedule at 423-543-5808.

# January 14 Fort Loudoun hosts 18th Century Firearms

(EAST) Please join guest speaker Edward Dorr in a special program on weaponry and firearms of the 18th century. Mr. Dorr will have on hand multiple examples of long arms, pistols and accoutrements used in the 1700s. The lecture begins at 2 p.m. ET in the Fort Loudoun visitor's center. For more information call 423-884.6217.

# January 14 Warriors' Path hosts Winter Garden Seminar

(EAST) 10 a.m.-noon, ET. Learn methods and techniques for environmentally friendly gardening. Free but pre-registration is required. Contact the park office 423-239-8531 or email Marty.Silver@tn.gov for more details or to pre-register.

### January 14 Virgin Falls SNA hosts Day Hike

(PLATEAU) Journey through the scenic beauty of one of Tennessee's best-loved hiking trails at Virgin Falls State Natural Area. We will take the strenuous 8-mile trail to the falls. This trail descends off of the Plateau, and meanders along a creek passing caves, sinks, and waterfalls. We will have lunch at the falls, which is remarkable due to the water pouring out of a cave mouth at the top of a bluff then falling over a hundred feet before being swallowed up by a sinkhole at the bottom. The trail then backtracks up and out of the gulf to the parking area. We will not go if it is raining or it is predicted to rain. Consult a weather report before the trip. Dress warmly in layers, wear sturdy boots, and bring plenty of water and lunch. As with any strenuous backcountry hiking trip, please do not attempt this hike unless you are in good condition and able to negotiate difficult trail situations. Meet at 7:30 a.m. CT at the Nashville Kroger store parking lot at 5544 Old Hickory Blvd, Hermitage near Summit Medical Center east of downtown Nashville. Reservations required: RSVP by January 11 to Forrest Evans, 615-532-0431, or Forrest.Evans@tn.gov. The first 10 reservations can take advantage of van transportation provided by the Tennessee Natural Areas Program.

# January 15 Harpeth River hosts History of Hidden Lake 10am

(MIDDLE) Join us at 10 a.m. CT for a 2-mile moderate hike on the loop trail through a wooded area along bluffs and lakes featuring points of interest from the quarry and resort eras. Max 15 people. Cancelled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# January 15 Harpeth River hosts Mound Bottom Hike

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# January 16 Harpeth River hosts Montgomery Bell's Pattison Forge

(MIDDLE) Enjoy a moderate 1-mile hike through the Narrows of the Harpeth. Includes a brief history of Montgomery Bell's tunnel and iron forge. Max 15 people. We will meet at 10 a.m. CT. Cancelled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# January 16 Harpeth River hosts Mississippian Culture Mound Bottom

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

### January 20 Warriors' Path hosts Fern Seminar

(EAST) 7-8 p.m. ET In preparation for tomorrow's in-depth seminar on landscaping with native ferns, enjoy a lively lecture on native fern ecology with guest speaker Tom Goforth of Crow Dog Native Ferns and Gardens. Free, pre-registration required. Contact the park office 423-239-9531, or email Marty Silver at Marty.Silver@tn.gov for more information or to pre-register.

### January 21 Montgomery Bell hosts Train History Festival

(MIDDLE) Montgomery Bell State Parks Train History Festival highlights the connections between the railroads of the past and their effect on modern day parks and recreation This event will have various displays, presentations and running model train layouts. This event runs from 9:30am - 4p.m. CT at the Montgomery Bell Inn & Conference Center. For more information call 615-797-9052 or email Eric.Runkle@tn.gov.

### January 21 Fort Loudoun hosts Mad Anne Bailey!

(EAST) Please join Ms Suzanne Dennis as she brings Mad Anne bailey back to life in a first person historical program. Mad Anne Bailey was widowed during the French and Indian War and she took up her husband's weapons in the fight against the French. This presentation will take place at the Fort Loudoun Visitors Center at 2 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217.

### January 21 Taylor Hollow SNA hosts a Winter Hike

(MIDDLE) Join Roger McCoy for a guided hike at Taylor Hollow State Natural Area. Winter provides an opportunity to observe the dissected landscape of the Eastern Highland Rim and even in the coldest months, Taylor Hollow does not disappoint its visitors. Winter also allows us to hike off trail without fear of trampling the hollow's sensitive vegetation. We will follow the established trail into the stream bottoms and then

hike off trail up moderately steep slopes and finally descend back to the point of entry. Our walk should last approximately two to three hours. While afield, we'll discuss some basic winter shrub and tree identification, forest ecology including the influence of slope aspect and forest succession, observe some large trees, over-wintering basal rosettes of wildflowers, interesting fossils, and possibly ice formations from Taylor Hollow's small waterfall. The hike is moderate to difficult, but those accustomed to hiking should have no problems. Dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Meet in front of 671 Phillips Hollow Road, Westmoreland, in northeast Sumner County at 10 a.m. CT.(http://maps.google.com/maps?q=671+Phillips+Hollow+Rd,+Westmoreland,+TN+37 186,+USA&sa=X&oi=map&ct=title). Reservations are required; contact Roger at roger.mccoy@tn.gov or 615-532-0437.

# January 21 Reelfoot Lake hosts Hike & Tour

(WEST) Join Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program & David Haggard, West Tennessee Regional Interpreter for a day of adventure at Reelfoot Lake State Park & Natural Area in northwest Tennessee. Tour includes observing eagles and waterfowl, a hike into the cypress forest, and a stop on the Earthquake dome to learn about the New Madrid Earthquakes. Visit the Battle of Island #10 civil war site including the mass burial, native American mounds, and the overlook on the Chickasaw Bluffs. Meet at the visitor center. Tour is from 1-5 p.m. CT. Cost is \$10 per person to cover shuttle transportation. Reservations required: call Reelfoot Lake Visitor Center at 731-235-9652. For more information email Robin.Wooten@tn.gov or David.Haggard@tn.gov.

# January 28 Fort Loudoun hosts History of the Cumberland Gap

(EAST) Join National Park Service Ranger Pam Eddy as she delves into the rich history of the Cumberland Gap. She will also cover what Cumberland Gap National Historic Park offers to visitors. The program will take place at 2 p.m. ET in the Fort Loudoun Visitors Center. For more information call 423-884-6217.

### January 29 Harpeth River hosts Hidden Lake Hike

(MIDDLE) Hike a 2 mile moderate loop trail through a wooded area along bluffs and lakes featuring points of interest from the quarry and resort eras. Max 15 people. Cancelled if rain.We will meet at 10 a.m. CT. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# January 29 Harpeth River hosts History of Mound Bottom

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# February 4 Fort Loudoun hosts Behind the Scenes: The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin

(EAST) Join filmmakers Chris Albrecht and Danny "Buck" Kahler for a special screening of the PBS documentary The Mysterious Lost State of Franklin. The screening will be followed by behinds the scenes glimpse of the making of the film. Ample time will be provided for question and answers. The screening will be at the Fort Loudoun Visitor Center at 2 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217

# February 5 Harpeth River hosts History of Pattison Forge

(MIDDLE) Enjoy a moderate 1 mile hike through the Narrows of the Harpeth. Includes a brief history of Montgomery Bell's tunnel and iron forge. Max 15 people. Cancelled if rain. We will meet at 10 a.m. CT. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# February 5 Harpeth River State Park hosts Mound Bottom

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# February 11 Roan Mountain hosts Winter Naturalist's Rally

(EAST) A winter celebration of the Roan Highlands; their grassy balds, scenic trails, trees, shrubs, and geology. Led by the Friends of Roan Mountain. Programs include speakers on the historical landscape of the Roan, the current forest, and opportunities to volunteer for stewardship. Also, volunteers are needed to sign up for a garlic mustard (pull time to be decided) on the Roan and in the park this spring. We'll be signing folks up at this Winter Naturalist's Rally, so be sure to come, sign up, and also enjoy all the other great presentations! Reservations required: Contact David Hall, 423 772-3500, dhall@friendsofroanmtn.org.

**February 11** Fort Loudoun State Park hosts Daniel Boone: American Hero (EAST) Join Steven Caudill as he brings Daniel Boone back to life in this first person historical interpretation. The program will take place at 2 p.m. in the Fort Loudoun Visitor Center. For more information call 423-884-6217.

#### February 12 Harpeth River hosts History of Hidden Lake

(MIDDLE) Hike a 2-mile moderate loop trail through a wooded area along bluffs and lakes featuring points of interest from the quarry and resort eras. Max 15 people. Meet at 10 a.m. CT. Cancelled if rain Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

**February 12** Harpeth River hosts Mound Bottom Mississippian Culture (MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

### February 17 Hill Forest SNA hosts a Winter Hike

(MIDDLE) Come enjoy a winter afternoon hike through the Hill Forest Designated State Natural Area. This 2.5 mile hike will give you a view of big trees in winter and an appreciation for the rolling hills, ridges and hollows which outlines the natural areas topography. The hike will take approximately 3 hours. Bring water, wear sturdy walking gear, and dress for the weather. We will meet at 2 p.m. CT. Brian Bowen, Tennessee Natural Areas Program, Julia Landstreet, Friends of Warner Parks are the hike leaders. Sponsors: TN Resource Management Division, Friends of Warner Parks, & Warner Parks. Reservations required: call Warner Park Nature Center at 615-352-6299 or email wpnc@nashville.gov. Meeting location information will be provided at this time.

# February 18 Sycamore Shoals hosts Militia Muster at Fort Watauga

(EAST) Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. ET. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Visit Fort Watauga and step into a colorful Revolutionary world. Re-enactors portray a variety of characters, from hunters and farmers to land speculators and backcountry gentry. Walk among colonists and native peoples who share their past through talks, mini-dramas, and demonstrations of 18th century life. Contact the park for detailed schedule at 423-543-5808.

# February 18 Cumberland Mountain hosts CCC Hike

(PLATEAU) Hike along Byrd Creek, a trail built by the CCC, and learn a variety of things from plant id and water ecology to history of the CCC. For more information call 931-484-6138.

# February 18 Fort Loudoun hosts Sons of Demere

(EAST) Patrick Demere, direct descendant of Raymond Demere the original commandant of Fort Loudoun in 1756 will be hand to speak on the Demere lineage. Specific attention will be paid to the Demere family that went to serve in the American war of Independence. The program will take place at 2 p.m. ET in the Fort Loudoun visitor's center. For more information call 423-884-6217.

# February 19 Harpeth River hosts Pattison Forge History

(MIDDLE) Enjoy a moderate 1-mile hike through the Narrows of the Harpeth. Hike includes a brief history of Montgomery Bell's tunnel and iron forge. Max 15 people. We will meet at 10 a.m. CT. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# February 19 Harpeth River hosts Hike into Mound Bottom

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

### February25 Short Springs SNA hosts an Exotic Adventure

(MIDDLE) Join our State Parks Natural Areas staff for a morning of volunteer stewardship (9 a.m. - noon CT) at Short Springs State Natural Area near Tullahoma. We need your help to remove invasive exotic plants near the trailhead of the natural area! Eradication of privet, bush honeysuckle, and English ivy will help to prevent it from entering the pristine natural area that supports two state-listed endangered plant species: Nestronia (Nestronia umbellula) and broad-leaved bunchflower (Melanthium latifolium). After the plant pull, participants will have the opportunity to hike down to the popular Machine Falls. Wear long pants, sturdy shoes, and bring your favorite work gloves for this invigorating Saturday morning of volunteering. Thank you for your support! Leader: Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program. Short Springs is a 420-acre natural area located in Coffee County approximately three and a half miles northeast of Tullahoma. Reservations are required; contact Robin at 615-532-4799 or Robin.Wooten@tn.gov.

# February 26 Radnor Lake hosts Waterfowl Identification

(MIDDLE) Join our State Parks Natural Areas staff & Radnor Lake staff for an informal viewing of overwintering waterfowl at Radnor Lake, Tennessee's first natural area from 1 - 4 p.m. CT. Radnor Lake is a popular spot for migratory waterfowl and a variety of other wildlife. Through spotting scopes visitors will possibly see Bufflehead,

Canvasbacks, Lesser Scaup, American Coots, and other waterfowl. Radnor Lake staff also hosts ongoing viewing opportunities during the winter months, for more information about those programs please contact the park office at 615-373-3467.

**February 26** Harpeth River hosts Hike and History of Hidden Lake (MIDDLE) Hike a 2-mile moderate loop trail through a wooded area along bluffs and lakes featuring points of interest from the quarry and resort eras. Max 15 people. Meet at

10 a.m. CT. Cancelled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at

615-952-2099.

# February 26 Harpeth River hosts Mound Bottom

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# March 2 & 3 House Mountain hosts Volunteer Privet Pull - 2 Days!

(EAST) Please join Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program & Nancy Schelin, Volunteer Coordinator, Tennessee State Parks for an opportunity of environmental stewardship at one of Tennessee's most popular State Natural Areas. House Mountain is just 8 miles north of Knoxville and possesses the highest point in Knox County. We will be working near the trailhead to remove the invasive Privet plant. Join us for either Friday afternoon and/or Saturday morning as we battle these exotic pest plants to make room for our native wildflowers and other vegetation. Please wear sturdy shoes, longs pant, warm clothes, and bring your favorite work gloves. Snacks will be provided. Friday, March 2 from 1 - 4 p.m ET. Saturday, March 3 from 9 a.m. - noon ET. Thank you for your support of Tennessee State Natural Areas! Reservations are required; contact Robin at 615-532-4799 or Robin.Wooten@tn.gov.

# March 3 Cumberland Mountain hosts Volunteer Trail Day

(PLATEAU) Join park staff and the Friends of Cumberland Mountain to help clean up the Byrd Creek Trail Run route for the upcoming 15 K on May 12. Additional volunteer days are March 17, April 7 and April 21. Volunteers are needed to help re-blaze the trail, trim back limbs and briars, and move other obstructions on the trail (down trees and branches). Our main focus will be the overnight trail which is 6 miles long. Meet at the park office at 8 a.m. CT with water, snack and sack lunch. Wear sturdy shoes and appropriate clothing. For more information call 931-484-6138 or Monica.Johnson@tn.gov.

March 3 Fort Loudoun hosts Archeology of the French Fort Toulouse (EAST) Park Archeologist Ned Jenkins will be joining us for a presentation on the history and archeology of Fort Toulouse, located in present day Wetumpka, Alabama. The program will take place at 2 p.m. ET in the Fort Loudoun visitor center. For more information call 423-884-6217.

March 3 - April 29 Reelfoot Lake hosts Deep Swamp Canoe Trips

(WEST) Join our experienced naturalist for a half-day canoe float through seldom explored areas of Reelfoot Lake. Observe old growth cypress forest, a heron rookery and an eagle nest as we leisurely paddle through the cypress swamp. Large fish swimming, ducks taking flight, and an occasional snake making an appearance add excitement to the trip. A variety of bird life such as songbirds, ducks, herons, owls, or an

eagle usually show up to check out the canoeist. Trips depart from Reelfoot Lake State Park's visitor center at 8 a.m. CT on weekends in March and April. Cost is \$20.00 if park canoe is used. Private canoes are no charge. We suggest you bring snacks, drinks, a change of clothes, a camera and binoculars in a waterproof, floatable container. Please call Reelfoot Lake State Park's visitor center for reservations and/or additional information. The telephone number is 731-253-9652.

# March 4 Cumberland Mountain hosts Birds of Prey

(PLATEAU) Save Our American Raptors present their Birds of Prey program. For more information call 931-484-6138 or Monica. Johnson@tn.gov.

# March 04 Harpeth River hosts Hike into Mound Bottom

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# March 4 Harpeth River hosts Montgomery Bell Pattison Forge

(MIDDLE) Enjoy a moderate 1-mile hike through the Narrows of the Harpeth. Includes a brief history of Montgomery Bell's tunnel and iron forge. Max 15 people. We will meet at 10 a.m. CT. Cancelled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for Reservations at 615-952-2099.

March 10 Rugby SNA hosts The Rowdy, Rugged, Rugbians Spiraea Pull (PLATEAU) The Rowdy, Rugged Rugbians continue their battle to save the Rugby State Natural Area from a dreaded Japanese spiraea invasion. Much progress has been made at this location in the Cox Branch drainage in the last three years, but this will be our first spring pulling. Why? Because we're thinking it will be much better to pull the plants before they even have ANY chance of setting seed in the fall. Plus, the spiraea is an early leaf setter, so we'll be able to see it very well, since nothing much else will be leafed out in the shrub layer in late March (except Japanese honeysuckle shrubs and if we spy those, we'll pull them, too)!!! Bring your gloves, wear layers and we'll work a few hours in the morning. We'll meet at the Harrow Road Café for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. ET and then head into the natural area at Cox Branch at 9:30 to continue pulling Japanese spiraea in this area. We always have fun. Just ask any of the Rowdy, Rugged Rugbians! For more information email Lisa Huff at lisa.huff@tn.gov.

# March 10 Walls of Jericho SNA hosts Early Spring Hike

(PLATEAU) Journey through the springtime beauty at the Walls of Jericho State Natural Area in Franklin County. This strenuous 8-mile hike descends 600 feet into the "Walls" and continues along the creek to an amazing canyon of sheer rock bluffs, caves, and waterfalls. Dress appropriately for the weather, wear sturdy boots, and bring plenty of water and lunch. This hike is strenuous and participants should be in good physical condition. The trip will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Leader: Forrest Evans, Tennessee Natural Areas Program. Reservations required: RSVP by March 9 to Forrest Evans, 615-532-0431, or Forrest.Evans@tn.gov. Meet at the Nashville Target store parking lot off of Bell Road near Hickory Hollow at 7:30 a.m. CT. The first 10 reservations can take advantage of transportation provided by the Tennessee Natural Areas Program.

**March 10** Sycamore Shoals hosts Overmountain Weavers Guild Show and Sale (EAST) Don't miss this great opportunity to visit with some of the best weavers of our region! If you love fibers, this is the place for you! Demonstrations include weaving, spinning, knitting, natural dyeing, and more. A variety of handmade items will be offered for sale. For more information contact the park at 423-543-5808.

### March 10 Fort Loudoun hosts Garrison Weekend

(EAST) Join park staff and volunteers as they bring the 18th century back to life. Living Historians will recreate the soldiers, civilians and Cherokee who inhabited Fort Loudoun and surrounding area from 1756-1760. Program hours are 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217.

# March 10 Reelfoot Lake hosts Deep Swamp Canoe Trip

(WEST) Join our experienced naturalists for a half-day canoe float through seldom explored areas of Reelfoot Lake. Observe old growth cypress forest, a heron rookery and an Eagle nest as we leisurely paddle through the cypress swamp. Large fish swimming, ducks taking flight, and an occasional snake making an appearance add excitement to the trip. A variety of bird life such as songbirds, ducks, herons, owls, or an eagle are likely to be seen. Cost is \$20.00 per boat if park canoe is used. Private canoes are no charge. We suggest you bring snacks, drinks, a change of clothes, camera and binoculars in a waterproof, floatable container. Trip is approximately 3 hours and begins at 1 p.m. CT. This is one of the most unique adventures offered in West Tennessee! Leaders: Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program & David Haggard, West Tennessee Regional Interpreter, Tennessee State Parks. Reservations required: call Reelfoot Lake visitor center at 731-235-9652. For more information email Robin.Wooten@tn.gov or David.Haggard@tn.gov.

March 11 Meeman-Shelby Forest hosts West Tennessee Bottomland Hike (WEST) Join Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program & Samantha Cox, Park Interpretive Specialist, Meeman-Shelby State Park for an afternoon of hiking on the 3 mile Woodland Trail. The hike is moderate to strenuous and goes up and down a number of rolling hills though a bottomland forest. Participants will learn about the colorful local history and see some champion trees which grow well due to the extremely fertile soil near the Mississippi River. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. A camera, snacks,water, and walking stick are recommended. Some areas of the trail are tricky to negotiate! The hike will last approximately 3 hours. Meet at 1 p.m. CT at the Meeman-Shelby State Park office and we will carpool to the trailhead. Reservations are required; contact Robin at 615-532-4799 or Robin.Wooten@tn.gov.

March 11 Harpeth River hosts Mississippian Culture and Mound Bottom (MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

### March 11 Harpeth River hosts History of Hidden Lake

(MIDDLE) Hike a 2-mile moderate loop trail through a wooded area along bluffs and lakes featuring points of interest from the quarry and resort eras. Max 15 people. Cancelled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# March 15 Sycamore Shoals hosts Celebrating Our Stories - Honoring the 75th Anniversary of Tennessee State Parks

(EAST) Thursdays, March 15, June 21, September 20 7 pm ET. The fascinating stories of Sycamore Shoals will be presented by the Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. Guest speakers will share early 18th century tales of monumental events that took place on this land, and it's ultimate designation as a Tennessee State Park on July 2, 1976. Contact the park for more information at 423-543-5808.

# March 17 Edgar Evins hosts Spring Waterfall Tour

(MIDDLE) Join park staff and the Friends of Edgar Evins for our popular spring Waterfall Tour on March 17. This day-long, adult-oriented event features van rides to selected waterfalls in Middle TN with a break for lunch in a restaurant. There will be short walks on uneven ground to view falls, so wear sturdy shoes. \$10 fee per person, lunch is on your own. Reservations required. Phone 931-858-2114 or 800-250-8619 for reservations. We will leave the visitors center at Edgar Evins State Park at 8 a.m. and return at approximately 3 p.m. CT. For more information call and to RSVP call 931-858-2114 or 800-250-8619.

# March 17 Devils Backbone SNA hosts Early Spring Hike

(MIDDLE) This spring hike will follow the 3 mile moderately strenuous (most will find it easy) loop trail through the natural area. The trail runs along a high ridge featuring dry, oak-hickory forest and traverses down slope to a moist soil hardwood forest indicative of the Western Highland Rim region of Tennessee. Consult the weather forecast; the hike will be cancelled in case of bad weather. The trip leader will interpret the ecology of the natural area. Meet at 10 a.m. CT, at the Devil's Backbone parking lot off the Natchez Trace Parkway near mile marker 394, approximately three miles north of Highway 412 (see map athttp://state.tn.us/environment/na/natareas/devils/devils.pdf). Leader: Allan J. Trently, Tennessee Resource Management Division, Natural Areas Program. Reservations required: RSVP by March 15th to Allan J. Trently, 731-512-1369 or allan.trently@tn.gov. If you need to call me on March 17th, call my cell at 731-234-4887 (coverage at Devil's Backbone is not reliable).

#### March 17 Cumberland Mountain hosts Volunteer Trail Day

(PLATEAU) Join park staff and the Friends of Cumberland Mountain to help clean up the Byrd Creek Trail Run route for the upcoming 15 K on May 12. Additional volunteer days are April 7 and 21. Volunteers are needed to help re-blaze the trail, trim back limbs and briars, and move other obstructions on the trail (down trees and branches). Our main focus will be the overnight trail which is 6 miles long. Meet at the park office at 8 a.m. CT with water, snack and sack lunch. Wear sturdy shoes and appropriate clothing. For more information call 931-484-6138 or Monica.Johnson@tn.gov.

# March 17 & 18 Rock Island hosts Waterfall Week

(PLATEAU) Visit one of our many waterfalls or take a guided hike with the park naturalist. Views of waterfalls can be easily seen from the Mill parking lot and Twin Falls parking lot. Guided hikes will be offered March 17th and 18th. Registration not required. Trail maps and more information may be accessed at the park's visitor center, website and facebook page.

# March 18 Harpeth River hosts Pattison Forge History

(MIDDLE) Enjoy a moderate 1-mile hike through the Narrows of the Harpeth. Hike includes a brief history of Montgomery Bell's tunnel and iron forge. Max 15 people. Cancelled if rain.

Meet at 10 a.m. CT. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# March 18 Harpeth River hosts Mound Bottom History

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

# March 23 Cordelli Hull Birthplace hosts Wildflower Hike

(MIDDLE) Join a park ranger as we explore the Bunkum Cave Trail in search of spring blooms! Folklore, medicinal and edible use and identification will be discussed. Hikers meet at the Bunkum Cave trailhead at 9 a.m. CST. For more information call 931-864-3247.

# March 24 & 25 Rock Island hosts Spring Wildflower Hike

(PLATEAU) Come celebrate spring and all it's splendor by getting outside and enjoying a guided hike led by park interpretive ranger & special guest naturalists! Details to be announced.

For more information call 931-686-2471.

# March 25 Harpeth River hosts Hike to Hidden Lake

(MIDDLE) Hike a 2-mile moderate loop trail through a wooded area along bluffs and lakes featuring points of interest from the quarry and resort eras. Max 15 people. Cancelled if rain. We will meet at 10 a.m. CT. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

### March 25 Harpeth River hosts Mound Bottom Hike

(MIDDLE) Join us at 1 p.m. CT for a ranger led hike to view the Mississippian Period Indian Mound Complex known as Mound Bottom. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations are required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain. Please call Harpeth River State Park for reservations at 615-952-2099.

#### March 31 Roan Mountain hosts Garlic Mustard Pull

(EAST) Calling all volunteers! Now is the time for all lovers of "The Roan" to pitch in to help battle the terrible invaders on her doorstep: Tree-of-heaven, garlic mustard, the dreaded Japanese knotweed. Kill them! Kill them all! Oh, how I wish we could, but for this event, we're going to concentrate on pulling garlic mustard along the Highway 143 roadside and inside the state park. Pulling garlic mustard is very easy. Volunteers will only need to bring their personal gear (good footwear, layered clothes, water, lunch, hat, gloves, etc.). Bags for disposing of the garlic mustard will be provided. If we pull the mustard for about 5 years, we should be able to get rid of it and then just monitor and pull the few stragglers that will pop up after that. It's amazing how much you can get done in just a short while with just a few dedicated pullers! Meet at the Roan Mountain State Park Conference Center at 9 a.m. ET. Leader: Lisa Huff, Tennessee Natural Areas Program, lisa.huff@tn.gov.

# March 31 Sgt. Alvin C. York hosts Black-powder Over the Log Shooting Match For more information call 931-879-6456.

# March 31 Cumberland Mountain hosts Kite Day

(PLATEAU) 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. CT. Join our Friends of Cumberland Mountain in their Kite Day extravaganza!! Event is free and kites will be available to the first 100 kids, Lunch at noon for the kite flyers!! For more information call 931-484-6138 or Monica.Johnson@tn.gov.

# March 31 Old Stone Fort hosts Nature Day

(MIDDLE) Join for this all day events that will include bird hikes, wildflower hikes and a bird of prey program. Please contact the park office at 931-723-5073 or email stephanie.hayes@tn.gov for further information

# March 31 & April1 Rock Island hosts Spring Wildflower Hike

(PLATEAU) Come celebrate spring and its splendor by getting outside and enjoying a guided hike led by park interpretive ranger & special guest naturalists! Details to be announced. For more information call 931-686-2471.

# March 23 Cordelll Hull Birthplace hosts Wildflower Hike

(MIDDLE) Join a park ranger as we explore the Bunkum Cave Trail in search of spring blooms! Folklore, medicinal and edible use and identification will be discussed. Hikers meet at the Bunkum Cave trailhead at 9 a.m. CST. For more information call 931-864-3247.

# April 7 Cumberland Mountain hosts Volunteer Trail Day

(PLATEAU) Join park staff and the Friends of Cumberland Mountain to help clean up the Byrd Creek Trail Run route for the upcoming 15K on May 12. Additional volunteer days are April 21. Volunteers are needed to help re-blaze the trail, trim back limbs and briars, and move other obstructions on the trail (down trees and branches). Our main focus will be the overnight trail which is 6 miles long. Meet at the park office at 8 a.m. CT with water, snack and sack lunch. Wear sturdy shoes and appropriate clothing. For more information call 931-484-6138 or Monica.Johnson@tn.gov.

#### April 7 Rock Island hosts Easter Celebration

(PLATEAU) Campground and Cabin Guests can enjoy a day full of spring fun, including tie die, Easter games, meeting the Easter Bunny, and hunting for Easter eggs! For more information call 931-686-2471.

# April 9 - 15 Tennessee State Natural Areas Week (TBA)

# April 13-15 Norris Dam hosts 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

(EAST) Three days of events at Norris Dam State Park celebrating the history of the people of our area and CCC boys that had such a huge part in the construction of our facilities. More information to come as we start the planning process.

#### April 14 Roan Mountain hosts East Egg Hunt

(EAST) Bring the kids and enjoy Easter on the Mountain by hunting eggs in the park. Noon – 2 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-772-0190.

# April 14 Edgar Evins hosts Celebration of Spring

(MIDDLE) Join park staff and the Friends of Edgar Evins for our annual Celebration of Spring. This family friendly, free event offers a variety of scheduled activities including face painting, a program with live snakes, crafts making, old time 3-legged and sack races, live musical entertainment, pontoon boat rides, bird, butterfly and wildflower identification walks, as well as longer more challenging hikes for the physically fit. Scheduled events will begin at 8 a.m. and continue throughout most of the day. You are encouraged to bring your sack lunch or picnic to enjoy a day in the park. Registration for activities will open in front of the office a few minutes before the first nature walk begins at 8 a.m. CT. For more information and to RSVP call 931-858-2114 or 800-250-8619.

### April 14 & 15 Fort Loudoun hosts Garrison Weekend

(EAST) Living history program brings Fort Loudoun back to life as park staff and volunteers portray the soldiers, civilians and Cherokee that inhabited Fort Loudoun and the surrounding area from 1756 until 1760. Program hours are 10 a.m. ET until 5 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217.

# April 14 Sycamore Shoals hosts Carter Mansion Celebration & Militia Muster - Honoring the 75th Anniversary of Tennessee State Parks

(EAST) Saturday, April 14 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. ET and Sunday, April 15 10 a.m. – 3p.m. ET. Join us for two days of history, music, and fun at the Carter Mansion, the oldest frame house in Tennessee. Travel back to the 1770s...the American colonies struggle against Britain, and the Patriot frontiersmen gather together to celebrate Independence. See local craftsmen demonstrate traditional skills such as natural dyeing and colonial cooking. Contact the park for detailed schedule at 423-543-5808.

# April 15 Sycamore Shoals hosts Carter Mansion Celebration & Militia Muster - Honoring the 75th Anniversary of Tennessee State Parks

(EAST) Saturday, April 14 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. ET. Sunday, April 15 10 a.m. - 3p.m. ET. Join us for two days of history, music, and fun at the Carter Mansion, the oldest frame house in Tennessee. Travel back to the 1770s...the American colonies struggle against Britain, and the Patriot frontiersmen gather together to celebrate Independence. See local craftsmen demonstrate traditional skills such as natural dyeing and colonial cooking. Contact the park for detailed schedule at 423-543-5808.

# April 20-22 Warriors' Path State Park hosts Spring Nature Festival

(EAST) Experience the delights of spring nature discovery in the great Tennessee outdoors. Participate in seminars taught by professionals, and hikes guided by trained naturalists. Topics include: spring wildflowers, tracking, astronomy, stream life, local geology, spring trees, and more! Free. Contact the park office 423-239-8531 or email Marty.Silver@tn.gov for a complete schedule of the weekend's events.

### April 21 Earth Day Events (TBA)

### April 21 Panther Creek hosts Earth Day Celebration

(EAST) Join the Friends and staff of Panther Creek State Park during our annual Earth Day Celebration. This year's celebration will include a litter cleanup project, reptile program, wildlife rehabilitation demonstration, flower planting activities and several nature hikes. This event will take place at the Spoone Shelter from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-587-7046.

# April 20 Cordell Hull Birthplace hosts The Green Connection

(MIDDLE) Join us at the park for this two-part event! At 9 a.m.CT, we're meeting in the park office and celebrating Earth Day by exploring the role of amphibians to the environment and creating miniature habitats for "Kermit the Frog." At 1 p.m. CT, we are reminding everyone of the importance of trees to the environment by hosting a Native Tree ID hike. For more information call 931-864-3247.

# April 21 Cumberland Mountain hosts Volunteer for Earth Day

(PLATEAU) Join park staff and the Friends of Cumberland Mountain to help clean up the Byrd Creek Trail Run route for the upcoming 15K on May 12. Meet at the park office at 8 a.m. CT with water, snack and sack lunch. Wear sturdy shoes and appropriate clothing. Volunteers are needed to help re-blaze the trail, trim back limbs and briars, and move other obstructions on the trail (down trees and branches). Our main focus will be the overnight trail which is 6 miles long. For more information call 931-484-6138 or Monica.Johnson@tn.gov.

# April 21 & 22 Fort Pillow hosts Civil War Re-enactment

(WEST) Join us from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. CT both days with a night hike at 7 p.m. on the 21st. Programs offered include hikes, museum tours, battle between North and South, encampments, rifle and cannon demonstrations, wood fire cooking demonstrations, etc. Food and civil war vendors will be on site both days. Open to all ages. Hikes will be around 2.3 miles, lawn chairs welcome. For more information call Robby Tidwell at 731-738-5581.

### April 21 South Cumberland hosts Coke Ovens

(PLATEAU) Meet Jason Reynolds at the Grundy Lakes beach parking lot for a talk and short walk on the history of mining and coke ovens in Grundy County. This short hike/talk will start at 10 a.m. CT. This hike is part of the Trails and Trilliums event. For more information call 931-924-2980.

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# April 21 South Cumberland hosts Cator Savage

(PLATEAU) Join Ranger Chase Hall for the 9 mile round trip, difficult hike to see historic Cator Savage Cabin. Along the way Chase will discuss early pioneering days as well as survival in the Savage Gulf. Bring plenty of water, sturdy shoes, and a lunch that you can pack. This hike will take the majority of the day. Please meet Ranger Chase at the Stone Door Ranger Station at 8 a.m. CT. This hike is part of the Trails and Trilliums event. For more information call 931-924-2980.

### April 21 South Cumberland hosts Stage Coach Road Hike

(PLATEAU) Join Ranger George Shinn and explore the Historic Stage Coach Road. This 14 mile hike will take us down into Savage Gulf by way of the ol' stage road. Ranger George will give interpretive talks about the history of the road and how local folk put it use. This is a difficult hike due to the change in elevation and the distance to the road. Please bring plenty of water, sturdy hiking shoes, and pack a lunch. Due to the location of this trail and difficulty we are asking for anyone that is interested to please call George

Shinn 931-779-3532 to reserve a space on this hike. Meet at the Savage Gulf Ranger Station Parking lot at 9 a.m. CT. This program will be part of the Trails and Trilliums event.

April 21 Sycamore Shoals hosts Landscape Seminar & Plant Auction (EAST) An exciting array of unusual ornamental & native perennials, trees and shrubs will be auctioned during this event. A great opportunity to add new species to your landscape! Sponsored by The UT Extension Service, E.Tenn. Nursery Assoc., and the Eliz/Carter Co. Chamber of Commerce. For more information contact the park at 423-543-5808.

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#### April 22 South Cumberland hosts Moonshine in Grundy

(PLATEAU) Come meet Ranger Bill for a discussion on Moonshine in Grundy County. We will meet at the Grundy Forest parking lot at 11:00 a.m. CT. This talk is part of the Trails and Trilliums event. For more information call 931-924-2980.

# April 22 South Cumberland hosts CCC History Hike

(PLATEAU) Join Park Ranger Brent Smith for this 2-mile moderate hike around the Grundy Forest Day loop. Along the way, Brent will talk about the history of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Bring plenty of water and wear sturdy shoes. This hike will meet at the Grundy Forest Parking lot at 1 p.m. CT. This hike is part of the Trails and Trilliums event. For more information call 931-924-2980.

# **April 28** Sycamore Shoals hosts Community Plant Exchange

(EAST) Saturday, April 28 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. ET. The front parking lot will be bustling this morning! Bring cuttings and potted outdoor and indoor plants, to exchange for species you don't have—a fun way to meet other gardeners and increase your collection. For more information contact the park at 423-543-5808.

# April 28 – June 2 Sgt. Alvin C. York hosts Smithsonian Exhibit - 75th Anniv. Celebration

(MIDDLE) For more information call 931-879-6456.

#### May 1 - Oct. 1 Reelfoot Lake hosts Scenic Pontoon Boat Tour.

(WEST) Experienced naturalists who are eager to discuss the history and wonders of this natural phenomenon pilot our cruise boats. A stop on historic Caney Island Indian Mound provides picnic tables and primitive restrooms. Majestic Cypress Trees rise from the reflective waters of Reelfoot Lake. A variety of aquatic plants and flowers occupy the shoreline and saturate the shallow water. Hundreds of birds fill the air with their songs. You may see Great Blue Herons, ducks, and an occasional American Bald Eagle soaring above. All of this creates an exhilarating cruise and enhances the serenity and peacefulness of Reelfoot Lake. You will marvel at the awe inspiring adventure "Mother Nature has in store for you. Interpretive cruises depart from the Visitor Center/Ellington Assembly Hall at 9 a.m. CT daily, May 1 thru October 1, (weather permitting). The tour is approximately 3 hours long. Special afternoon cruises are provided for groups of ten (10) or more, Monday thru Friday, between the hours of 1:30 p.m. CT and sunset. Reservations must be made in advance. Short cruises are offered on weekends and holidays at 1:30 PM and 3:00 PM. This cruise is approximately one (1) hour long. Reservations are required. You may call 731-253-9652 to make your reservation.

LONGCRUISE \$9.00 - ADULTS

LONG CRUISE \$6.00 - UNDER 16 YEARS OLD SHORT CRUISE \$6.00 - PER PERSON/ALL AGES

May 4-6 Old Stone Fort hosts Old Stone Fort Knapp In and Archaeoskills (MIDDLE) Join for this 3 day event that will be featuring flint knapping, atlatl (spear throwing), basket weaving, and other native crafts. For more information call 931-723-5073 or email stephanie.hayes@tn.gov.

# May 4-6 Roan Mountain hosts Spring Naturalist Rally

(EAST) Dinner, hikes. Bird watching, night sky viewing. Led by the Friends of Roan Mountain. For more information call 423-5808.

- May 5 Cumberland Mountain hosts Wildflower Photography Workshop (PLATEAU) Meet at 9 a.m. CT at the park restaurant terrace. Join Ranger Johnson and Photographer Anthony Ladd as they take you on a fantastical journey through the forest of Cumberland Mountain State Park in search of that perfect wildflower photo and other picturesque vistas! Workshop will include photography tips, innovative ways of capturing dramatic images of wildflowers, wildflower identification and hike. For more information call 931-484-6138 or Monica.Johnson@tn.gov.
- May 5 Rock Island hosts 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (PLATEAU) Help us celebrate Tennessee State Park's 75th anniversary by remembering Rock Island State Park's 45th Birthday! Special interpretive programs, activities relating to the history of the park and the people who have made it special will be offered. Details and times to be announced and published on Rock Island State Park's Facebook page or call the park office at 931-686-2471
- May 5 Dunbar Cave hosts 75th Anniversary Celebration Spring Fling (MIDDLE) 7 a.m. 4:45 p.m. CT. Celebrate the Parks 75th Anniversary with all day nature programs, including (tentatively) Bird Hike, Wildflower Hike, Backpacking Presentation, Raptors with S.O.A.R, Wildlife Rehabilitation with Waldens Puddle, Canoeing, Bluebirds, Snakes, and Native Amphibians and Reptiles. Presented by the

Friends of Dunbar Cave, Tennessee Trails Clarksville Chapter, Warioto Audubon and TWRA. Complete schedule TBA. For more information call 931-648-5526.

# May 5 & 6 Fort Loudoun hosts Garrison Weekend

(EAST) Men, women and children will bring Fort Loudoun back to life as they portray the soldiers, civilians and Cherokee who lived at Fort Loudoun and the surrounding area from 1756-1760. Event hours are 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217.

- May 7 Pickett hosts CCC Memorial State Park History Camps (PLATEAU) CCC History along with work demonstrations will be given at elementary schools in Pickett and Fentress Counties during the month of May, 2012. For more information please contact Travis Bow, Interpretive Specialist, at 931-879-5821.
- **May 12** Roan Mountain hosts Jr. Trout Tournament (EAST) Children ages 6 15 are encouraged to grab their fishing poles for a chance to catch "The Big One" and win prizes. Tagged fish will be stocked for the event. Sponsored by the Elizabethton Elks Lodge #1847 and Roan Mountain State Park. For more information call 423-543-1360.
- May 12 Sycamore Shoals hosts Bird Walk with the Herndons TOS Chapter (EAST) Saturday, May 12 8:00 a.m ET. Meet other birders and naturalists at Sycamore Shoals for a morning of birding during the migratory season. For more information contact the park at 423-543-5808.
- May 12 Cumberland Mountain hosts Byrd Creek Trail Run

(PLATEAU) 15K Trail Run, 3.6 mi Run and 1.8 mi Fun Run. This annual event begins at 7:30 a.m. CT with the 15K Trail Run and 3.6 mile Run which meanders through the park's forest. For those who like shorter distances the 1.8 mile Fun Run will start at 8 a.m. CT. Hosted by the Tennessee Park Ranger Association, the runs befit the Ranger Scholarship Fund and Cumberland Mountain's Junior Ranger program for kids. All runs will start and finish at Shelter 1 in the park's upper playground. And awards ceremony will be at 9 a.m. CT. Food and drinks will also be available. The pre-registration deadline is April 30. A race T-shirt is guaranteed to all pre-registered runners. Registration will also be available on Saturday, May 12, from 6:30 to 7:15 a.m. CT. Entry fees are: 1.8mi Fun Run: Pre-registration - \$10 / Day of Run- \$15; 15K and 3.6 mi Trail Runs: Pre-Registration - \$25 / Day of Run - \$30. For more information call 931-484-6138.

May 18 Sycamore Shoals hosts Colonial Kids at Fort Watauga (EAST) Reservations Only! Families, schools, and home school groups are invited to attend this all-day event for kids ages 8-12. Join the Washington County Militia for a taste of 18th century life: black powder muskets, old-time games, marching drills, tomahawk throwing, Dutch-oven cooking, and a host of other colonial activities. Admission is free and groups are welcome, but space is limited. Reservations are required! For more information contact the park at 423-543-5808.

May 19 **Dunbar Cave hosts the annual Crawdad Hootenanny & Hike** (MIDDLE) Don your boots and join intrepid biologists Wooten & Withers for an aquatic excursion to a natural area best known for its historic cave. Dunbar Cave SNA is home to some of our most clever crayfish—the mudbugs, or burrowers. Bring boots you don't mind getting wet and gloves you don't mind getting dirty. If the raccoons don't beat us to it, we will learn how to coax crayfish out of active burrows ("noodling") and identify them to species. We will meet at the main office at 10 a.m. CT and hike to the margins of Dunbar Lake where we will begin our hike. We will follow the loop trail looking for fresh crayfish chimneys and their occupants. Leaders: David Withers, Natural Heritage Program Zoologist and Robin Wooten, Natural Areas Program Manager This trip is limited to 15 quests. Don't forget to contact David to make your reservation and leave a phone number or E-mail to contact you in case we have to cancel the hootenanny on account of inclement weather. Meet at 10 a.m. CT at the Dunbar Cave office. Reservations are required. RSVP to David Withers by May 14, 2012 at 615-532-0441 or david.withers@tn.gov. This trip is limited to 15 guests.

May 19 Cumberland Mountain hosts Solar & Star Gazing Party (PLATEAU) 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Solar viewing will begin at the upper softball field. 1 hour before sunset – A 40 minute pre dusk basic astronomy program will begin with planet and deep sky night observing following! Location Upper Softball Field Solar viewing and night sky viewing led by Lloyd Watkins. For more information call 931-484-6138.

# May 19 Cordell Hull Birthplace hosts Folk Festival and 75th Anniversary Celebration

(MIDDLE) Join us at the park as we go through time to explore the past. Visitors to the event will be able to view many different displays and reenactments of the past such as Native American Dancers, The Long Hunters, the Revolutionary War, and the Civil War as well as arts and crafts, quilt contests, folk music, and much, much, more! The park is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT. For more info call 931-864-3247.

# May 19-20 Sycamore Shoals hosts 18th Annual Siege at Fort Watauga - Honoring the 75th Anniversary of Tennessee State Parks

(EAST) Saturday & Sunday, May 19 & May 20 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Step back to a vibrant and dangerous time...America declares Independence in the summer of 1776, and people beyond the mountains build forts, stock powder, and sharpen hatchets for the oncoming war. Walk among local legends—the vivacious Bonnie Kate, mysterious Old Abram, dignified Col. Carter, and daring John Sevier—for a glimpse of life on this "dark and bloody ground." Colonial, native, and British re-enactors share their past through talks, mini-dramas, and demonstrations of 18th century life. Battle re-enactments both days. Contact the park for detailed schedule at 423-543-5808.

### May 26 Roan Mountain hosts Diamond Jubilee

(EAST) Happy Anniversary Tennessee State Parks! Join us in celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of Tennessee State Parks at the Miller Farmstead, (alternate location the Park Conference Center). All activities are family friendly and handicapped parking is available. Activities include: Diamond Dash Trail Run at 9 a.m.; Homecoming Welcome of former/retired park employees 10 a.m.; Tellin' on the Porch/Stories from the Park's past 10:45 a.m.; Cake Judging 11 a.m. Bring a decorated cake to mark the occasion. Prizes awarded! Cake and Ice Cream Party to follow the judging. Continuous Historic

Slide Show and Continuous Legacy Project Display. Roan Mountain is on central time. For more information call 423-772-0190.

# June 1 Bicentennial Capitol Mall hosts Statehood Day

(MIDDLE) The park will celebrate Tennessee's 216th year as a state. June 1, 1796 was Tennessee's date of statehood and June 1, 1996 was Tennessee's Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park dedication day. For more information call 615-741-5800.

June 1 – July 28 Cordell Hull Birthplace hosts Junior Ranger Program (MIDDLE) This summer we are offering children of all ages a chance to participate in the Junior Ranger Program! Our program incorporates a variety of historic and nature-themed programs and emphasizes hands-on learning. Topics include World Biomes, wilderness survival, World War I and II, and candle making! Children have the opportunity of attending these programs on Friday, Saturday and Monday from 1 to 2 p.m. CT throughout the summer. For more info call 931-864-3247.

# June 2 National Trails Day (events TBA)

June 2 Cordell Hull Birthplace hosts National Trail Work Day and Hike (MIDDLE) Join the park for a rewarding morning of trail work followed by a guided hike on the Bunkum Cave Trail. Assistance is needed to maintain this beautiful trail! Long pants and boots recommended. Snacks, water, work gloves and tools will be provided. Meet at 9 a.m.CT at the trailhead. For more information call 931-864-3247.

# June 2 – July 28 Cordell Hull birthplace hosts Hobbits in Wonderland - Nature & Literature Event

(MIDDLE) A new type of Program is being hosted this summer at Cordell Hull Birthplace State Park! In an effort to encourage children of all ages to read and explore nature, we are hosting a series of programs throughout June and July featuring classic children's stories with a nature theme such as "The Hobbit" and "Robin Hood". Each program meets at the park office on Saturdays from 2:00 to 3:00PM CST. For more information call 931-864-3247.

# June 2 Pickett hosts State Parks 75th Anniversary: Pickett CCC Memorial State Park Heritage Day

(PLATEAU) Please join us at Pickett CCC Memorial State Park to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Tennessee State Parks. Heritage Day activities will include blacksmith demonstrations, log hewing, crosscut saw and mule skidding demonstrations, period clothing, CCC Museum tours, old time music, square dance, wagon rides, and games. Hours are from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. CT, square dance at 8 p.m. CT. For more information please contact Travis Bow, Interpretive Specialist, at 931-879-5821.

# June 2 Sycamore Shoals hosts 22th Year in 2011! Sycamore Shoals Native American Festival

(EAST) Saturday & Sunday, June 2 & 3 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. A two-day celebration of our Native American heritage! Award-winning dancers, storytellers, artists, and scholars gather at the circle to share knowledge and demonstrate their skills. Come and discover Native American arts, music, and legends, with an emphasis on the Cherokee culture. Admissions Charge. Contact the park for details at 423-543-5808.

#### June 2 & 3 Rock Island hosts National Trails Day

(PLATEAU) Come celebrate with us the American Hiking Society's National Trails Day! This is a great opportunity to volunteer, have fun, and make a difference! Weekend events will include a Gorge and Beach Clean up and guided hikes with the park naturalist! Groups, families and individuals all welcome. Details to be announced and published on Rock Island State Park's facebook page or call the park office at 931-686-2471.

June 2 State Natural Areas hosts Tennessee Coneflower Natural Areas Tour (MIDDLE) Our tour will provide an opportunity to experience Middle Tennessee cedar glades and barrens visiting numerous nearby locations for Tennessee coneflower. It will be peak flowering time for Tennessee coneflower, and an opportunity to celebrate the success of its recovery. It was September 2, 2011, when it was removed off of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) because it is now a healthy thriving species with all of the extant populations protected in Tennessee state natural areas. Come enjoy seeing a rare species that was once on the brink of extinction, but today can be seen in the unique habitat of many of our Middle Tennessee state natural areas, including Couchville, Mt. View and Vesta Cedar Glades and Barrens. The event will include moderate non-strenuous hiking. Bring a lunch and plenty of water. Meet at 9 a.m. CT at the parking lot of Target on Bell Road (Hickory Hollow Mall area). Reservations required: RSVP by June 1st to Brian Bowen, 615-532-0436 or Brian.Bowen@tn.gov. Transportation will be provided but space is limited. We will return to the Target parking lot by 2:30.

June 2 State Natural Areas host Tennessee Coneflower Tour Part Deux (MIDDLE) Our group will take a botanical tour of several cedar glades in Middle Tennessee to see rare plants which are found in glades and barrens. The Tennessee Coneflower is one of these rare plants and it has been removed from the Endangered Species list. It is now thriving at Vesta Cedar Glade SNA and Couchville Cedar Glade SNA. These two natural areas will be the focus of our tour but other sites will be an option. Our tour is timed for the peak of flowering so plenty of flowers will be seen. We will see numerous other rare species in the glades and discuss why they occur in this special habitat. Spring will be turning to summer and we will catch some plants from both seasons in flower. The hiking will not be strenuous but on a sunny day the heat can be an issue in cedar glades. Plan accordingly to avoid overheating or sunburn. Bring a lunch and plenty of water. We plan to complete the tour by 2:00 pm. Leaders: Todd Crabtree, State Botanist and Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program, Resource Management Division. Meet at 10 a.m. CT at Cedars of Lebanon State Park in the parking lot adjacent to the Nature Center. Reservations are required. RSVP by June 1st to Todd Crabtree, 615-532-1378 or Todd.Crabtree@tn.gov.

June 9 Cumberland Mountain hosts FREE Fishing Day (PLATEAU) 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. CT. Meet the Naturalist, Park Rangers, & Friends Group members in front of the park restaurant for food, fun, and prizes!! For more information call 931-484-6138.

June 9 & 10 Davy Crockett Birthplace hosts Appalachian Heritage Fair (EAST) Join Park Staff and our Pioneer Friends Group for this 2-day event in Celebrating 75 years in State Parks with Traditional Art and Crafts of our Region and Traditional Regional Music. For more information call 423-257-2167.

#### June 11-15 Cumberland Mountain hosts Junior Ranger Day Camp

(PLATEAU) Camp is for ages 8-12. The cost is \$25. There is a limit of 30 kids for the camp so sign up fast! For more info call 931-484-6138.

# June 16 Warriors' Path hosts Dragonfly Day

(EAST) Learn to observe, photograph and identify native dragonflies and damselflies. Free but pre-registration is required. To pre-register, contact the park office 423-239-8531 or email Marty.Silver@tn.gov.

### June 16 Laurel-Snow SNA hosts Wildflower & Waterfall Hike

(PLATEAU) Join our Natural Areas Staff for a day of hiking at this beautiful and remote natural area on the Cumberland Plateau which includes a portion of the Cumberland State Scenic Trail. We will be looking for late spring/early summer wildflowers and observing all plants and wildlife along the way as we hike to Laurel Falls. Depending on rainfall the falls may be already low for the season but the view will be worth the hike up! The very interesting cultural history of the region will be discussed and participants will see remnants of mining activity. The route is moderate to strenuous. Wear sturdy shoes and hiking clothes, and bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks. Roundtrip hike is approximately 5 miles and 5 hours. Meet at 9 a.m. ET at the Laurel Snow SNA. Laurel-Snow is located north of Dayton and is accessible via Highway 27/29. Reservations are required; contact Robin at 615-532-4799 or Robin.Wooten@tn.gov.

June 16 Burgess Falls 8<sup>th</sup> annual Butterfly Garden Celebration (MIDDLE) Help us celebrate the award-winning native plant butterfly garden, that park staff, the Putnam County Master Gardeners and volunteers created with funding from the Iris License Plate program. The 8th annual Butterfly Garden Celebration is a fun filled day with staff led educational programs, hikes, butterfly identification, creek studies, landscaping with native plants and more! For more information call 931-432-5312.

# June 16 & 17 Roan Mountains hosts the Rhododendron Festival

(EAST) Celebrate the blooming of the Catawba Rhododendron Gardens atop the Mountain. The festival features crafts, folkway demonstration, music and food. Held at the amphitheater starting at 10 a.m. ET both days. Sponsored by the Roan Mountain Citizens Club. For more information visit www.roanmountain.com.

# June 21 Sycamore Shoals hosts Celebrating Our Stories - Honoring the 75th Anniversary of Tennessee State Parks

(EAST) Thursdays, March 15, June 21, September 20 7 p.m. ET. The fascinating stories of Sycamore Shoals will be presented by the Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. Guest speakers will share early 18th century tales of monumental events that took place on this land, and it's ultimate designation as a Tennessee State Park on July 2, 1976. Contact the park for more information at 423-543-5808.

### June 23 Reelfoot Lake SNA hosts annual Butterfly Count

(WEST) Please join Allan Trently, Stewardship Ecologist, Natural Areas Program and Bart Jones, Butterfly Expert Extraordinairefor the Reelfoot Lake Butterfly Count. Butterfly species and numbers will be counted and the data will be sent to the North American Butterfly Association. These counts allow amateurs and professionals alike to participate in the appreciation and conservation of butterflies. The count leader is Bart Jones of Memphis. The first part of the count will take place around the Park's visitor center where we typically see the rare Tennessee butterfly, the Broad-winged Skipper. From

there we will count butterflies in and around the lake. In 2011 the very rare Bronze Copper butterfly was located. You are not expected to identify and count the butterflies but merely participate in learning about these insects and some of the plants that they use. The count typically ends around 5 p.m. but you may leave earlier if needed. Since we will be out in the sun for most of the day bring sun block and plenty of water. Wear sturdy shoes, bring a snack and binoculars if you have them, and dress appropriately for the weather. We will not go in the event of inclement weather. Meet at 9:30 a.m. CT at the Reelfoot Lake State Park visitor's center at 2595 State Route 21E, Tiptonville, TN 38079 (visitor center 731-253-9652). Reservations are required: Contact Allan Trently at 731-512-1369 or at allan.trently@tn.gov no later than June 21st. If you need to call me on June 23rd call my cell at 731-234-4887.

# June 23 Davy Crockett Birthplace hosts Pioneer Kids Camp (EAST) Join Park Staff and our Pioneer Friends Group in Celebrating 75 years in State Parks by a day of hands on demonstrations of Pioneer skills and crafts for all the kids. For more information call 423-257-2167.

# June 23 &24 Fort Loudoun hosts 75th Anniversay Event- Emissaries of Peace: Timberlake in the Overhills

(EAST) This multifaceted program will highlight the visit of Lt Henry Timberlake to the Overhill Cherokee country in 1762. Programs planned included guided tours of the Little Tennessee Valley with guides from the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, scholarly lectures on Timberlake and his interaction with the Cherokee, videoconferencing with speakers from the London Museum and living history which will depict the 18th century Cherokee. Event hours are 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217

# June 30 & July 1 Sycamore Shoals hosts An 18th Century Independence Celebration & Muster - Honoring the 75th Anniv. of TN State Parks

(EAST) Saturday June 30 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sunday July 1 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. ET. Experience the 4th of July, 18th century-style! What did colonists think about a new nation? Be a guest in Fort Watauga as news of Independence arrives to the colonial frontier. Walk among historical characters and hear their varied reactions to the Declaration, from fear of war to the hope of a brighter future. The Celebration will take place on Saturday; the muster will continue until Sunday at 3 pm. Contact the park for detailed schedule at 423-543-5808.

# June 30 Roan Mountain hosts Independence Day Celebration (EAST) Traditional old time games, checkers tournament, watermelon eating contest, bicycle parade 8-12 a.m. ET. Live entertainment at the amphitheater from 4-9 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-772-0190.

July 4 Cumberland Mountain hosts 4th Annual 4th of July Parade (PLATEAU) 9:30 a.m. CT. Meet at Park Office to decorate your bike, car, dog, etc. 10:00 a.m. Parade will begin at 10 a.m. \*Decorate your bike, vehicle, dog, & yourself and show off your Independence Pride!! Family games, watermelon seed spitting contest, and much more will follow the parade at the baseball field beside Shelter 1. This activity is free to the public. For more information call 931-484-6138.

July 12-14 Sycamore Shoals hosts Liberty: The Saga of Sycamore Shoals (EAST) Now in our 34th Year! -Honoring the 75th Anniversary of TN State Parks Thursday – Saturday, July 12 - 14, 19 - 21, & 26 - 28 7:30 p.m. ET. Tennessee's official outdoor drama, presented by local performers against the backdrop of Fort Watauga. See the Revolution as told by the Overmountain Men: colonists who defied British law and settled on Cherokee lands. These settlers formed an independent government, made treaties with the Cherokee, defended their homes, and fought a British army at the epic battle of King's Mountain. Bleacher seating is available in the Amphitheater. Sponsored by Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. Ticket Prices: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$8 children, 5 and under free. Contact the park for more information at 423-543-5808.

# July 16-20 Roan Mountain hosts Jr. Ranger Camp

(EAST) Children ages 8-12 learn outdoor skills from experienced Ranger staff. For more information call 423-772-0190.

# July 18 Cumberland Mountain hosts CCC Day

(PLATEAU) 10:00 a.m. CT. Meet at the Recreation Hall. Members of the CCC Company 3464 will be honored for their hard work constructing the park. In honor of the CCC and to celebrate our 75th Anniversary a history display will be set up, Rangers dressed in CCC attire telling the story of the CCC days, a CCC slideshow of old photos, and much much more! For more information call 931-484-6138.

July 18 Cumberland Mountain hosts CCC Day (Our Birthday) (PLATEAU) Recognizing the CCC boys who worked here in the late 1930's while celebrating 75 years of Cumberland Mountain State Park. Slideshows, period dressed rangers, stories, and more. For more information call 931-484-6138.

July 21Streams and Waterfalls of the Highland Rim and Cumberland Plateau (PLATEAU) Get your feet wet in diverse streams and spectacular waterfalls from two different physiographic provinces of Tennessee. During this all-day trip we will compare and contrast the ecology and geology of streams that cascade over Tennessee's Highland Rim with those that meander on top of and drop over the side of the Cumberland Plateau. We will travel from Nashville along the I-40 corridor to a waterfall in the Caney Fork watershed on the Highland Rim. From there we will continue working our way up the Cumberland Plateau with stops at Ozone Falls in the Fall Creek system and Piney Falls in the Little Piney and Soak Creek systems. Bring lunch, a camera, sturdy shoes, and common sense as the trails surrounding these streams can be steep and slippery. In safe locations, wading will be encouraged if weather and time permit. Meet at 8 a.m.CT at the Donelson Pike K-Mart parking area (just north of the Donelson Pike-I-40 Exit 216) in Nashville. Reservations are required. RSVP by July 18 to Silas Mathes, 615-532-0431 or silas.mathes@tn.gov. The first 10 reservations can take advantage of transportation provided by the Tennessee Natural Areas Program..

# July 21 Reelfoot Lake hosts Water Garden Tour

(WEST) Join Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program & David Haggard, West Tennessee Regional Interpreter, Tennessee State Parks for a day of floating nature study at Reelfoot Lake State Park & Natural Area in northwest Tennessee. We are offering a pontoon tour where we will glide slowly through the multitude of blooming water plants for close study and photographic opportunities. Meet at the State Park visitor center. Tour is from 8 a.m until noon CT. Cost for the pontoon ride is \$9 for adults,

\$6 for children, and 5 and under are free. Wear sunscreen and a hat and bring water and snacks. The tour will last approximately 4 hours. For more information email Robin.Wooten@tn.gov or David.Haggard@tn.gov.Reservations are required: call Reelfoot Lake visitor center at 731-235-9652.

# July 28 Warriors' Path hosts Folklife Festival

(EAST) Come celebrate Tennessee State Park's 75th anniversary, and also celebrate the folk traditions of East TN. Enjoy traditional life skills and crafts demonstrations, traditional games and contests, old-timey music, and more. And don't miss the tales around the campfire! Free. Contact the park office 423-239-8531 or email Marty.Silver@tn.gov for a complete schedule of the day's events.

# July 28 Duck River State Scenic River hosts Canoe Float

(MIDDLE) Come join us as we enjoy the cool waters of the Duck River on a warm summer day. We will be on a very flat and easy stretch of river from Leftwich Bridge to the TWRA take out at Howard Bridge. This stretch of the river has a gentle current, no rapids, and will take about 4 hours to float. This is an excellent opportunity for beginners to canoe. Participants are welcome to bring their own canoe or kayak, but will have to provide their own transportation if they do. Transportation from put-in to take-out can be arranged. Canoes can be rented at a special discount of \$12.50 per person or \$25 per canoe through a local canoe vendor. Our put-in point is about a 45-minute drive south of Nashville on I-65. Bring lunch and water and perhaps a change of clothes. Meet at 9 a.m. CT at the Target parking area at Old Hickory Blvd. and I-65 in Brentwood. Reservations are required. RSVP by July 26 to Forrest Evans, 615-532-0431 or forrest.evans@tn.gov. The first 10 reservations can take advantage of transportation provided by the Tennessee Natural Areas Program..

July 28 Roan Mountain hosts Xtreme Roan Adventures Youth Rally (EAST) Kids enjoy nature talks, hikes, live animals and much more. For more information call 423-773-9234.

# July 28 Dunbar Cave hosts 75th Anniversary Celebration - Cooling at the Cave

(MIDDLE) 4 - 6 p.m. CT. Celebrate the Parks 75th Anniversary with a trip back to Dunbar's past - enjoy games, music and refreshments at the cool Cave Entrance. For more information call 931-648-5526.

# August 4 T.O. Fuller State Park hosts State Park's 75th Anniversary & Fullerfest

(WEST) Join us on August 4 as we celebrate Tennessee State Park's 75th anniversary. Interpretive programs, relating to the history of State park's and T.O.Fuller. This family-friendly event includes aCar Show, Arts & Crafts, Music (live DJ) and food. Call our park office for more details 901-543-7581.

August 5 Sycamore Shoals hosts 10th Annual Elizabethton Butterfly Count (EAST) 9 a.m. & 1 p.m. ET. Meet naturalist Don Holt at Sycamore Shoals for this daylong winged adventure across town. Come for all or part of the day. Sponsored by the North American Butterfly Association & Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. (Rain Date to be announced). For more information contact the park at (423)543-5808.

August 10 & 11 David Crockett State Park hosts David Crockett Days (MIDDLE) Living history event to celebrate Crockett's Birthday. Black powder shooting matches, tomahawks throwing competition, traders, food and more! For more information call 931-762-9408.

August 11 Frozen Head hosts Heritage Day and State Park's 75th Anniversary (PLATEAU) Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary in conjunction with Heritage Day, Saturday, August 11 and we invite the public to come enjoy the arts, crafts, food and music of the Cumberland Mountains. Heritage Day is an event celebrating the folk music and crafts of traditional Appalachian and Cumberland Plateau culture found in and around Frozen Head. Heritage Day features craftspeople, demonstrators, and musicians from around the region performing throughout the day. This year's event will include a celebration of Tennessee State Park's 75th Anniversary. Bring the kids to play children's games, listen to stories, and make corn husk dolls. Handmade jewelry, toys, and more. Primitive weapons and traditional demonstrations will take you back in time. Food vendors on site with delicious plate lunches, funnel cakes, and more. Come join us. It's free to get in. Details will be updated as planning progresses. Located in the beautiful Cumberland Mountains of East Tennessee, Frozen Head State Park is easy to find. From the Interstate 40 exit 347 at Harriman take Hwy. 27 North to Wartburg. Turn right (East) on Hwy. 62. Travel two miles and turn left on Flat Fork Road. Travel 4 miles to the park entrance. For more information please contact Ranger Michael Hodge at 423-346-3318 or email at michael.e.hodge@tn.gov.

# August 11 Oak Ridge Barrens hosts Nature Study

(EAST) Join Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program & April Welch, East Tennessee Regional Interpreter, for a morning of close nature study of the plants of barrens and glades. What is the difference between these two habitat types and what unique plants grow there? Oak Ridge Barrens natural area is 15 acres and is owned and cared for by the city of Oak Ridge. Oak Ridge Cedar Barren State Natural Area is next to Jefferson Middle School Fairbanks Road in Oak Ridge. Parking is limited so park in adjacent parking lot and walk over to the trailhead. Program will last approximately 2 hours. Meet at 9 a.m. ET at the Oak Ridge Barrens Registered State Natural Area. Reservations are required; contact Robin at 615-532-4799 or Robin.Wooten@tn.gov.

#### August 11 Cumberland Mountain hosts CCC Hike

(PLATEAU) Meet at the park office at 10 a.m. CT for a hike along Byrd Creek a trail built by the CCC. Wear sturdy shoes, dress for appropriate weather, & bring water. For more information call 931-484-6138.

August 11 & 12 Fort Loudoun hosts Cherokee Victory at Fort Loudoun (EAST) This living history event commemorates the Cherokee victory over the British at Fort Loudoun in 1760. Event hours are 10 a.m. ET until 5 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217.

**August 17 & 18 Big Ridge** hosts **Bluegrass 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** (EAST) We are celebrating 75 years of Tennessee State Parks and 30 years of Bluegrass at Big Ridge! In addition to our 30th annual Big Ridge Bluegrass Festival, we will have cultural demonstrations and activities to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our State Park System. Please join us! Music starts at 7 p.m. ET on Friday. Other event

schedules will be updated as planning progresses. For more information call 865-992-

# August 17-18-19 Davy Crockett Birthplace hosts Crockett Days

(EAST) Join park staff and volunteers for a celebration of the birth of David Crockett. Activities include an 18th century period camp with re-enactors demonstrating pioneer skills and lifestyles, entertaining scenarios depicting pioneer life, music, food, games and storytelling. This event is sponsored by the Pioneer Friends of Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park. Hours are: Friday 6-9 p.m. ET for storytelling and music; Saturday 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET and Sunday 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. ET. There is no fee for this event but donations to the Pioneer Friends Group are greatly appreciated. For more information call 423-257-2167.

# August 25 Cumberland Mountain hosts CCC Hike

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(PLATEAU) Hike along the Pioneer Trail, a trail built by the CCC, and learn a variety of things from plant id and water ecology to history of the CCC. 10:00 a.m. Meet at the boat dock at 10 a.m. CT. Wear sturdy shoes, dress for appropriate weather, & bring water. For more information call 931-484-6138.

# August 25 Couchville Glade SNA hosts Sunset Stroll

(MIDDLE) Join Robin Wooten, Tennessee Natural Areas Program & Jason Allen, Naturalist, Friends of Long Hunter State Park for a very special sunset walk through this beautiful cedar glade natural area. Participants will be able to view a variety of flowering plants including Tennessee Coneflower before the sun sets. We should be able to see and possibly hear nightjars, swallows and bats. The stroll will be easy and last approximately two hours. Be sure to bring your camera! Meet at 6 p.m. CT at the parking lot for Couchville Glade. Reservations are required; contact Robin at 615-532-4799 or Robin.Wooten@tn.gov.

### September 1 Cumberland Mountain hosts FoxFire Band

(PLATEAU) 2:00 p.m. CT. Meet at the restaurant terrace for some Newgrass music!! Event is free to the public! FoxFire Newgrass Band performs. For more information call 931-484-6138.

September 1 Carroll Cabin Barrens SNA hosts Cedar Barren Ecology Hike (WEST) Join Allan Trently, Stewardship Ecologist, Natural Areas Program on a 2.5 mile hike exploring some of the treeless barrens of the area. Some of the hike will be off-trail. The hike is to be considered moderate though some may find it strenuous. Alan will discuss the ecology and management of the barrens and will identify animals and plants during the hike. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and a snack, bring binoculars if you have them, and dress appropriately for the weather. We will not go in the event of inclement weather. Meet at the natural area parking lot at 9:30 a.m. CT. A map to the site can be found at: www.tn.gov/environment/na/natareas/carrollcabin/carrollcabin.pdf. Reservations are required. Contact Allan Trently at 731-512-1369 or at allan.trently@tn.gov no later than August 30. If you need to call me on September 1st call my cell at 731-234-4887 (coverage at Carroll Cabins is not reliable).

# **September 3 Indian Mountain hosts State Park's 75th Anniversary Event: The Miner's Mile**

(EAST) This event is a yearly event held on Labor Day. It is a 5K/10K run and 2 mile walk that benefits the city of Jellico. The run starts and ends in the park. Runners have an opportunity to see a good bit of the town from the beauty of the park to the history of downtown. Please come and join us for this event. For more information, please call the park office at 423-784-7958.

**September 7-8-9 Sycamore Shoals** hosts **12th Annual Celtic Festival** (EAST) Friday – Sunday, September 7, 8, and 9 Friday Night Torchlight Ceremony 6:30 p.m. ET. Saturday – Sunday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET. Saturday Night Concert 6:30 p.m. Celebrate Appalachia's Celtic heritage! Opening with a torchlight ceremony Friday Night, Clans and Family Societies will be on hand to help with family history; dance, music, food, vendors, demonstrations, reenactments of 18th & 19th Century heritage, lectures, and a special musical concert on Saturday evening. Admissions Charge. Contact the park for details at 423-543-5808..

**September 7-8-9** Roan Mountain hosts Fall Naturalist's Rally (EAST) Dinner hikes, bird-watching and night sky viewing led by Friends of Roan Mountain. For more information call 423-543-7576.

# September 8 & 9 Fort Loudoun hosts 75th Anniversary Event-An 18th Century Trade Faire

(EAST) The Fort Loudoun State Historic Park and the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum are partnering for the Great Island Festival, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET each day. The Great Island Festival is actually a series of concurrent events, designed to take visitors back in time to an 18th century Trade Faire and a Cherokee encampment. The 18th century Trade Faire at Fort Loudoun will feature encampments of soldiers, settlers and American Indians. There will be demonstrations throughout the day in artillery and musketry, along with several battle and skirmish re-enactments. Merchants and artisans will be on hand to peddle food and wares reminiscent of the time. Admission is \$5 for adults aged 12 and up; children 11 and under will be admitted free of charge. For more information please call 423-884-6217.

# September 15 Booker T. Washington hosts 75 years of Tennessee State Parks

(EAST) Booker T. Washington State Park celebrates 75 years of Tennessee State Parks with a Health and Recreation Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET. We will host a variety of exhibits, displays, health screenings, and recreational activities. Music and food will also be provided. More details to be included at a later date. For more information call 423-894-4955.

### September 16 Reelfoot Lake hosts Round House Reunion

(WEST) Reefoot Lake State Park welcomes the return of the Round House Reunion. During the 1950's and the 1960's, the Bluebank Round House was the place to be at Reelfoot Lake. People came from miles and miles to listen to the music, meet friends, and enjoy Reelfoot Lake. Many friendships and romances started at the Round House and many happy memories were created there. The Round House Reunion relives the feeling and sounds of that time. We invite you to join us for a day filled with good music and good friends on the shores of beautiful Reelfoot Lake. Pack a picnic basket, or enjoy available concessions, and meet old friends at the Round House Reunion on Sunday

September the 16th, 2012. The music will begin at 12:00 noon. CT. For more information call 731-253-8003.

# September 20 Sycamore Shoals hosts Celebrating Our Stories - Honoring the 75th Anniversary of Tennessee State Parks

(EAST) Join us at 7 p.m. ET for the fascinating stories of Sycamore Shoals, presented by the Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. Guest speakers will share early 18th century tales of monumental events that took place on this land, and its ultimate designation as a Tennessee State Park on July 2, 1976. Contact the park for more information at 423-543-5808.

September 22 Chickasaw hosts Chickasaw State Park Heritage Days (WEST) Celebrate the 75 years of Chickasaw State Park. Activities and programs about the history and the creation of the park will be conducted throughout the day. Most activities will be held at Sagamore Lodge, the original park structure built in 1937. Come help us celebrate the creation of the park and all of the memories that have been made here since then. For more information call the park at 731-989-5141 or 1-800-458-1752.

September 22 Short Springs SNA hosts Tree Identification Hike (MIDDLE) Possessing the ability to identify dominant tree species adds to our understanding and appreciation of forested ecosystems. Enjoy the first day of autumn by walking the natural area's trails and learning about Tennessee's diverse forest communities. During the three - four hours afield, participants will not only encounter a number of tree species, but will discover some leaf, twig and bark characteristics essential for woody plant identification. We'll also discuss how topographic and other environmental variables influence forest species composition. Attendees should bring water and snacks. Although not essential, a field guide to trees, small hand lens, and a notepad would be useful for this outing. Meet at the natural area parking lot at 10 a.m. CT. Map and directions are posted at www.tn.gov/environment/na/natareas/shortspr/. Meet at the natural area parking lot at 10 a.m. CT. Reservations are required. RSVP to Roger McCoy at roger.mccoy@tn.gov or

### September 22 Ghost River SNA hosts Guided Canoe Trip

(WEST) Participants are to meet at the Bateman Bridge takeout in Moscow at 9.30 a.m. CT where most vehicles will be left. There will be a shuttle to take people to the launch point at Yager Rd in La Grange where the paddling trip should commence at 10 a.m. The trip will focus on the history, diversity and beauty of the natural area. The float is about 9 miles and has some fast sections so some paddling experience is recommended. Participants should bring lunch and water to drink. Sunscreen, bug spray and carpooling are recommended. The canoe trip will last approximately 6-7 hours. More detailed information will be provided upon reservations. Reservations are required. RSVP to 731-253-9652. For more information please email Robin.Wooten@tn.gov or David.Haggard@tn.gov.

# September 22 &23 Sycamore Shoals hosts Overmountain Victory Trail Celebration

(EAST) Saturday, 10 a.mm – 4 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. ET. Join us for an encampment by the Overmountain militia before the Battle of King's Mountain in 1780. Live some of the most crucial days of the American Revolution! Call the park for a schedule of events at 423-543-5808.

**September 25** Sycamore Shoals hosts Overmountain Victory Trail March (EAST) Tuesday, 2 p.m. (approximate time) Members of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association have recreated the historic march to King's Mountain since 1975. Marchers will cross the Watauga River at Sycamore Shoals, just as the Overmountain militia crossed 232 years ago. For more information contact the park at 423-543-5808.

September 28-29-30 Old Stone Fort hosts Old Stone Fort Knapp-In and Archaeoskills (MIDDLE) A celebration of the ancient arts and archaeoskills, the weekend's main activities and special programming begin at 8 a.m. CT on Saturday and will run until approximately 4:30 p.m. The festival is free and open to the public. Flintknappers of all skill levels will begin arriving at the park on Friday and will set up on the roof deck of the museum to exchange ideas and materials and demonstrate their craft to the public. There will be atlatl competitions on Saturday and Sunday, with opportunities for everyone to try this ancient skill. Other demonstrations will include Native American pottery construction, shell carving, basketry, fire making, finger weaving, native plant use, cordage production and many other primitive skills. There also will be special presentations throughout Saturday on topics such as Southeastern archaeology and prehistory. The Old Stone Fort is a 2000-year-old Native American ceremonial site, which consists of nearly 4,000 feet of low, wall-like mounds enclosing nearly 50 acres. For more information contact park office at 931-723-5073 or email stephanie.hayes@tn.gov.

**September 29 & 30 Rock Island** hosts **37<sup>th</sup> Annual Lion's Club Fall Festival** (PLATEAU) Rock Island State Park will be hosting the 37th Annual Lion's Club Fall Festival & Craft Fair. The event highlights crafts, jewelry, & antiques. Games, music, & park interpretive programs are planned. All profits go to vision & hearing enrichment for needy families. For further information call 931-686-2769 or 931-686-2828.

# Sept. 29 National Public Lands Day (Events TBA)

#### October TBA Cove Lake Louie Bluie Festival

(PLATEAU) This all-day family-fun festival features three stages of music including traditional Old-time, Blues, Gospel, Mountain Jazz, and Bluegrass, plus storytelling and theater and our Kid's Fun Zone with lots of activities for the children. High quality art and handmade crafts will be sold in the Craft Village, and a judged Art and Quilt Show will be in the Recreation Center. Regional food vendors will be serving up a mouthwatering array of authentic Southern cooking, East Tennessee style. The Louie Bluie Festival is named in honor of Howard "Louie Bluie" Armstrong (1909-2003), a LaFollette native and internationally acclaimed string band musician who grew up in LaFollette in the 1920s and became one of the nation's finest string band musicians, as well as artist, storyteller, and writer. A \$2 per person/\$5 per family donation is encouraged and funds Campbell Culture Coalition, an all-volunteer non-profit community arts organization.

### October 4 - 7 Sycamore Shoals hosts 18th Annual Quilt Show

(EAST) Thursday, Friday & Saturday, October 4, 5, 6 from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. ET and Sunday, October 7 1 pm – 4:30 p.m. This four-day exhibition, sponsored by the Sycamore Shoals Stitchers, features a show and demonstrations by local quilters held in the park museum. Bed quilts, wall hangings, holiday and baby quilts, miniatures and antique quilts will be on display. Contact the park for details at 423-543-5808.

October 5-6-7 Reelfoot Lake hosts Reelfoot Arts and Crafts Festival (WEST) Chosen as one of the top three Arts & Crafts shows in Tennessee. Free Admission and some free parking. Exhibitors come from many states to show their crafts

and sell their wares with over 300 different vendors. When not perusing their wares enjoy free entertainment with artists from the area. Sit in the shade and enjoy old time string music and singing. www.reelfootartsandcrafts.com. For more information call 731-253-8003.

### October 6 Roan Mountain hosts Chili Cook-off

(EAST) Cook up a pot or come and sample. Register at Park Headquarters or campground. prizes will be awarded. 8 a.m. – noon. ET. For more information call 423-772-0190.

### October 6 Warriors' Path hosts Environmental Education Workshop

(EAST) 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET. Learn to use nearby, familiar environments as "natural classrooms" for your children and students. Try teaching techniques that bring conservation to life. Especially for teachers and youth leaders. Free, but pre-registration is required. To

pre-register, contact the park office 423-239-8531 or email Marty.Silver@tn.gov

#### October 6 & 7 Fort Loudoun hosts Garrison Weekend

(EAST) Park staff and volunteers portray the original garrison of Fort Loudoun and the Cherokees who lived in the Little Tennessee Valley in the mid 1700s. Program hours are 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217.

## October 6 & 7Sycamore Shoals hosts Fort Watauga Knap-In

(EAST) Saturday & Sunday, October 6 & 7 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. ET Knapping—with a "K"—has nothing to do with sleep! Knapping is the art of making stone tools, and the Knap-In at Fort Watauga is our celebration of Tennessee Archaeology Week. Watch primitive skills craftsmen make arrowheads, spear points, and other survival tools. There will be demonstrations of primitive tools such as the bow, arrow, and atlatl throughout the day. Contact the park for details at 423-543-5808.

#### October 13 Davy Crockett Birthplace hosts Mountain Melodies

(EAST) Join Park Staff and our Pioneer Friends Group in Celebrating 75 years in State Parks with a day of Traditional Mountain Music down by the Nolichucky River. For more information call 423-257-2167.

### October 13 Rock Island hosts Rock Island 5 Miler

(PLATEAU) Rock Island State Park will be hosting the kick off race this year for the 34th annual Tennessee State Parks Running Tour. This is the longest state parks running event in the U.S. Total participants last year for the tour was 3,064. The Rock Island race will include an on road & off road section with challenging elevation changes! You can access online registration at Racesonline.com. Call 931-743-2461 for more information or contact the park office at 931-686-2471.

### October 13 Edgar Evins hosts 6th Annual History Hayride

(MIDDLE) Bring your blanket and enjoy a family oriented ride back into time as the Friends of Edgar Evins and park staff bring history alive. There will be approximately 10 stops along the hayride where costumed re-enactors reveal the history of the area and its people. Light refreshments will be served. Reservations are required and the cost is \$10 per person. We begin accepting reservations on the 1st of September each year. The hayrides fill up quickly so mark your calendars now. For more information and to RSVP call 931-858-2114 or 800-250-8619.

#### October 13 Roan Mountain hosts Autumn Harvest

(EAST) Celebrate autumn at the farmstead with crafts, food and entertainment. Noon – 4 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-772-0190.

# October 13 Tims Ford hosts 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Heritage Day and Shade Tree Pickin' Celebration

(MIDDLE) Join us as we celebrate Tennessee State Park's 75th anniversary. Interpretive programs, activities relating to the history of the park and information on the people who lived here prior to the establishment of Tims Ford Reservoir along with bluegrass, country and gospel music. Bring your instrument and join in or just bring a lawn chair and sit a spell. Call the park office 931-962-1183 or check out Tims Ford State Park's facebook page for more information.

#### October 19 Hill Forest Natural Area hosts Old Forest Hike

(MIDDLE) Join Brian Bowen, Tennessee Natural Areas Program and Julia Landstreet, Friends of Warner Park for an October afternoon hike through the Hill Forest Designated State Natural Area. This 2.5 mile hike is your opportunity to experience the natural area's biggest and oldest forest trees while enjoying the fall color. The hike will take approximately 3 hours. Bring water, wear sturdy walking gear, and dress for the weather. Meet at the Hill Forest SNA at 2 p.m. CT. Reservations are required. RSVP to Warner Park Nature Center at 615-352-6299 or email wpnc@nashville.gov.

October 19 &20 Bicentennial Capitol Mall hosts Tennessee's History Festival (MIDDLE) The 9th Annual Tennessee History Festival and one of Tennessee State Parks 75th Anniversary Events. Come enjoy 200 years of living history and learn of Tennessee's past. The event blends education and entertainment, allowing school groups and families to experience day-to-day soldier life in history. The two-day festival features multiple displays and demonstrations by re-enactors and living history interpreters. The festival is free and open to the public. Activities will be offered from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT each day. School groups are encouraged to plan their visits for Friday, Oct. 19 and must register in advance. Educators may arrange for bus parking and special informational packets for their visits. School group reservations may be made by contacting Park Manager Mike Cole at 615-741-5800.

October 19-20-21 Cove Lake hosts Knap-in and Primitive Skills Festival (PLATEAU) In celebration of Tennessee State Parks 75th anniversary please join us and our volunteers for the 3rd annual Cove Lake State Park Knap-In and Primitive Skills Festival to be held October 19th, 20th, and 21st, from 9 a.m. ET until sunset each day. The event is free and open to the public. Demonstrations will include; flint knapping, bow building, cordage, basket weaving, quiver making, blowgun and darts, nature walk, fire making, atlatl, storytelling and a few other displays taking you through a time tunnel of the past. We may even sing happy birthday and share a bite of cake, refreshments limited. For more information call 423-566-9701.

October 20 Cumberland Mountain hosts Solar and Night Sky Program (PLATEAU) 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. CT. Solar viewing will begin at the upper softball field. 1 hour before sunset – A 40 minute pre dusk basic astronomy program will begin with planet and deep sky night observing following! Location Upper Softball Field. Solar Viewing and Night Sky viewing led by Lloyd Watkins. For more information call 931-484-6138.

### October 20 Walls of Jericho SNA hosts Waterfall Hike

(PLATEAU) This is a joint field trip with the Tennessee Native Plant Society. We will stop to appreciate plants along the way. Catch the fall colors at the Walls of Jericho State Natural Area in Franklin County. This strenuous 8-mile hike descends 900 feet into the "Walls" and continues along the creek to an amazing canyon of sheer rock bluffs, caves, and waterfalls. Dress appropriately for the weather, wear sturdy boots, and bring plenty of water and lunch. This hike is strenuous and participants should be in good physical condition. The trip will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Meet at the Nashville Target store parking lot off of Bell Road near Hickory Hollow at 7 a.m. CT. Reservations required: RSVP by October 19 to Todd Crabtree, 615-532-1378, or Todd.Crabtree@tn.gov. The first 10 reservations can take advantage of transportation provided by the Tennessee Natural Areas Program.

# October 20 Panther Creek hosts Heritage Day

(EAST) Join us at Panther Creek State Park for Heritage Day as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of Tennessee State Parks. There'll be live music, food, historical demonstrations, hayrides, crafts, hikes and more during this celebration of our local history. This event will take place at the Spoone Shelter from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-587-7046.

October 22 Cordell Hull Birthplace hosts United Nations Day Celebration (MIDDLE) Join park staff as we celebrate the United Nations, the international peacekeeping agency primarily authored by former Secretary of State Cordell Hull. We will observe this occasion with a display of highlights of the U.N. as well as a showcase of Sec. Hull's Nobel Peace Prize, which he received in 1945 for his role in creating the esteemed agency. The park is open 9a.m. to 5 p.m. CT. For more information call 931-864-3247.

October 25 Sycamore Shoals hosts Scary Stories at the Carter Mansion (EAST) Thursday, at 7:30 p.m. ET. Strange things happen around All Hallows Eve, especially at a 200 year-old mansion. Bring the family and join us for tales of woe and terror, the weird and macabre, with a touch of wit thrown in for good measure. Don't be afraid, the graveyard at the Carter Mansion isn't haunted... we think! Contact the park for details at 423-543-5808.

#### October 27 Cumberland Mountain hosts Trunk or Treat

(PLATEAU) 6 - 8p.m. CT. Meet at the Recreation Hall for a Hayride over to the campground to begin your trunk or treat adventure!! Other events will be scheduled. For more info contact Ranger Johnson at 931-484-6138.

### October 27 & 28 Reelfoot Lake hosts White Pelican Canoe Floats

(WEST) Canoe floats are offered at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27 and at 9 a.m. on Sunday Oct. 28. This Reelfoot trip will focus on the Fall color and the White Pelican Migration. Participants will paddle out to see hundreds of white pelicans who rest on Reelfoot Lake as they make their annual journey south for the winter. This canoe trip is on flat water, but some upper body strength is required as the trip will last approximately 3 hours. Participants are encouraged to bring a snack and water to drink. Sunscreen and bug spray are recommended. Canoes, life jackets and paddles will be provided. Visitors are also welcome to bring their own canoes/kayaks. Meet at the Reelfoot Lake State Park visitor center at 1 p.m. CT. Reservations are required.

Reservations may be made by calling 731-253-9652. For more information please email Robin.Wooten@tn.gov or David.Haggard@tn.gov.

# October 27 Meeman-Shelby Forest hosts 1st Annual Meeman-Shelby Heritage Festival & 75th Anniversary TSP Celebration

(WEST) Come to Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park from 10 a.m.to 5 p.m. CT to celebrate our American traditions, skills, and legacies. Demonstrators, vendors, games, live music, and interpretive programs will be offered for the entire family, as well as hourly programs by Tennessee State Parks. The event is free and event is free and parking is available within walking distance. For more information call 901-876-5201.

#### October 30 Rock Island hosts Rock Island 5 Miler

(PLATEAU) Rock Island State Park will be hosting the kick off race this year for the 34th annual Tennessee State Parks Running Tour. This is the longest state parks running event in the U.S. Total participants last year for the tour was 3,064. The Rock Island race will include an on road & off road section with challenging elevation changes! You can access online registration at Racesonline.com. Call 931-743-2461 for more information or contact the park office at 931-686-2471.

# November 3 Edgar Evins hosts Fall Color Cruise

(MIDDLE) Sponsored by the Friends of Edgar Evins State Park, this cruise is sure to delight as we view the fall scenery and homes of country stars. Admission \$10 per person and reservations are required. For adults, and children over 3 accompanied by an adult. We start accepting reservations the 1st of October each year. Cruises are approximately 2 hours long. For more information and to RSVP call 931-858-2114 or 800-250-8619.

November 7 Laurel Snow SNA hosts Fall Hike to Snow Falls and Buzzard Point (PLATEAU) Join us for a mid-week hike to Snow Falls and the Buzzard Point where we can see great views of the Ridge and Valley to the east toward Chattanooga. If the leaves are late, the colors can be great! Morgan, Henderson, Laurel and Richland Creeks never fail to please visitors with their beautiful chutes, pools and huge rocks. Bring layered clothing and footgear appropriate for November weather along with snacks and water. The hike is considered moderate with some significant up-hill climbing. Total distance roundtrip is about 5 or 6 miles. Meet at 8:30 a.m. ET at the Laurel Snow State Natural Area. For more information contact Lisa.Huff@tn.gov.

#### November 10 Roan Mountain hosts Old Time Yule

(EAST) Roan Mountain ends the year by wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas. Experience how the holiday was celebrated years ago. Old time music and traditional Christmas treats. For more information call 423-772-0190.

November 10 Reelfoot Lake hosts "Love the Lake" Lakeshore Clean-Up (WEST) Please help us Love the Lake! Meet at the state park visitor center for a morning of lakeshore clean up by canoe. Bring a pair of work gloves if you have them. Boats, life jackets, canoes and paddles will be provided for this special opportunity to get close to the unique lake short. Participants will paddle in the shallow water between cypress knees to remove unwanted debris. Snacks will be provided. Dress for the weather! Meet at 9 a.m. CT at the Reelfoot Lake State Park visitor's center. Reservations required: Reservations may be made by calling 731-253-9652. For more

information please email Robin.Wooten@tn.gov or David.Haggard@tn.gov. Thank you for your support of Reelfoot Lake and Tennessee State Natural Areas.

# November 10 & 11 Reelfoot Lake hosts Deep Swamp Tromp

(WEST) This 3 hour hike will take participants into old growth cypress forest off trail and into some of the most remote areas of Reelfoot Lake. The bald cypress trees are some of the largest in this area of the country. Participants are encouraged to wear sturdy hiking shoes and long pants, and bring a snack and water to drink. Meet at 1 p.m. CT on Saturday, Nov. 10 or 9 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 11 at the Reelfoot Lake State Park visitor's center. Reservations required: Reservations may be made by calling 731-253-9652. For more information please email Robin.Wooten@tn.gov or David.Haggard@tn.gov.

# November 10 & 11 Fort Loudoun hosts Garrison Weekend

(EAST) This living history program brings Fort Loudoun back to life as park staff and volunteers portray the original garrison of the fort and of the surrounding Cherokee towns. Event hours are 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217

November 11 Sgt. Alvin C. York hosts Veteran's Day Celebration (MIDDLE) For more information call 931-879-6456.

**November 17 & 18** Sycamore Shoals hosts Harvest Celebration & Militia Muster (EAST) Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. ET. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. ET. It's a jollification! The Washington County Militia musters its troops for good times and good cheer! Reenactors in period dress provide demonstrations of old-time skills and scenes from daily life in America's colonial past. Call the park for a schedule of events at 423-543-5808.

# **December 1 Cordell Hull Birthplace hosts Old Fashion Christmas**

(MIDDLE) Join park staff as we celebrate the holidays the way they were enjoyed in the late nineteenth century, the time period in which former Secretary of State Cordell Hull lived in this rural area on the edge of the Cumberland Plateau. Come on out for this holiday open house which includes refreshments and seasonal decorations in the restored birthplace cabin. The park is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT. For more information call 931-864-3247.

### **December 1 Warriors Path hosts Adopt A Tree**

(EAST) 10 a.m.-noon, eastern time. All area young people are invited to help bring "releaf" to Kingsport. We'll be distributing free tree seedlings, to plant in the park and to plant at home. Help begin tomorrow's forests! Free. For more information, contact the park office (423-239-8531) or email Marty.Silver@tn.gov.

# **December 1 Fort Loudoun** hosts A 75th Anniversary Event-Christmas at Fort Loudoun

(EAST) Celebrate Christmas in the 18th century style with native greenery, carols and wassail. Re-enactors will bring these and other 18th century lifestyles back to life with blacksmithing demonstrations, musket and artillery firings plus a special candlelight tour of Fort Loudoun. Daytime hours at 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. ET. The candlelight tour will commence at 6 p.m. and conclude at 7 p.m. ET. For more information call 423-884-6217

**December 7 Cordell Hull Birthplace** hosts **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day** (MIDDLE) Join park staff as we commemorate Pearl Harbor Day, the day that officially launched the United States' entry into WWII. We will observe the occasion with a display

of highlights of the infamous Pearl Harbor attack as well as a showcase on Sec. Hull's Nobel Peace Prize, which he received in 1945 for his role in creating the U.N. The park is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT. For more information call 931-864-3247.

**December 7 & 8 Sycamore Shoals** hosts **Christmas at the Carter Mansion** (EAST) Friday & Saturday, December 7 & 8 6-9 p.m. ET. Spend a candlelit evening in the oldest frame house in Tennessee, decorated with bright greenery for the holidays. Enjoy music, refreshments, and costumed interpreters acting out scenes from an 18th century Christmas. Contact the park for details at 423-543-5808.

**December 8 Sgt. Alvin C. York** hosts **Christmas in the Valley** (MIDDLE) For more information call 931-879-6456.

# **December 8 Davy Crockett Birthplace hosts Crockett Christmas**

(EAST) Join Park Staff and our Pioneer Friends Group in Celebrating 75 years in State Parks by a warm fire in the Crockett Cabin enjoying some Traditional Hot Wassail and Music in Christmas fashion from the Pioneer days of Davy Crockett.

### December 8 Pogue Creek SNA hosts Wilderness Holiday Hike

(PLATEAU) Enjoy late fall, the coming winter, and the holiday season by exploring this pristine wilderness area with knowledgeable guides. This 4 hour hike will take participants off trail into some of the wild areas of the Cumberland Plateau where they will see beautiful mountain gorges, rock formations and much more. This hike will be strenuous and require some negotiation around obstacles. Participants are encouraged to wear sturdy hiking shoes and long pants, and bring snacks, lunch and water to drink. Meet at 9 a.m. CT at the Pickett State Park office and we will carpool to the trailhead. Reservations are required; contact Robin at 615-532-4799 or Robin.Wooten@tn.gov.

### **December 15 Cumberland Mountain hosts Christmas on the Plateau**

(PLATEAU) Join us from 5-7 p.m. CT for our annual Toy Drive to help kids have a very Merry Christmas and Christmas Celebration. Activities include, music, interpretive programs, Christmas Story reading, ornament making, decorating and lighting the Christmas tree while sipping some hot chocolate, coffee, or hot cider. Toys will be taken up when Christmas on the Plateau begins! Meet at the Recreation Lodge. AT 7 p.m. Mr. And Mrs. Claus will be handing out toys for all the boys and girls. Oh and don't forget to take a drive through the park and see our historical CCC bridge decorated with lights! For more information call 931-484-6138.